

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

A DESIGN-BUILD PROJECT

Improvements to Interstate 55 Hinds County, Mississippi

Project Number DB/IM-0055-02(244)/106023-305000

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

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I. PURPOSE OF REQUEST

The purpose of this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) is to solicit Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) from firms interested in providing design and construction services necessary for the widening of I-55 from Byram to McDowell Road in Hinds County, Mississippi (known hereinafter as the "Project").

The Mississippi Transportation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission," will be utilizing the Design-Build method of contracting for this federally-funded project. The term "Responder" as used herein includes a firm or firms, partnerships, joint ventures, and others responding to this RFQ document. The term "Short-listed Responders" used herein refers to the responding firms that have been short-listed based on evaluation and scoring of their submitted SOQ and will be asked to submit a Volume 1 - Technical Proposal and a Volume 2 - Contract Price Proposal. The term "Contractor," as used here, is defined as the selected Short-listed Responder with whom the contract is executed.

The Commission intends to use a two-step process to award a contract for this Project. This RFQ represents the first step in the process. After evaluation and scoring of responsive SOQs, the Commission intends to short-list the <u>most qualified</u> Responders (a minimum of three (3)). Those Short-listed Responders will be provided a Request for Proposal (RFP) and asked to submit a Volume 1 - Technical Proposal and a Volume 2 - Contract Price Proposal. These Proposals shall include at a minimum: preliminary design plans, technical approach, a schedule including the number of calendar days to complete the Project, a cost to complete the Project, and other information as outlined in the RFP. The format, contents, and evaluation criteria of the Volume 1 - Technical Proposal and the Volume 2 - Contract Price Proposal will be included in the RFP. Final execution of the contract will be based on evaluations of the aforementioned items and will be at the sole discretion of the Commission.

Provided that the Short-listed Responders have submitted a <u>responsive</u> Volume 1 - Technical Proposal and a <u>responsive</u> Volume 2 - Contract Price Proposal, a stipend of \$75,000.00 will be available to the Short-listed Responder(s) to whom the contract is not awarded.

It is not the intention of the Commission to receive project-specific design or engineering recommendations as part of the SOQ. Responders should limit their submittals to the information required herein.

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II. OVERVIEW

The Project includes all work necessary to widen I-55 from Byram to McDowell Road. The Project will be approximately 7.6 miles with five (5) interchanges and multiple retaining walls. The work also includes pavement rehabilitation of the existing parallel frontage roads.

The specific scope of work will be described in the RFP. This Project includes federal funds.

The Project was originally awarded by the Commission on March 19, 2013, utilizing the Design-Bid-Build method of procurement. The Contractor was issued a Notice to Proceed on May 13, 2013, and began working on the Project in accordance with the original set of plans and specifications. On January 5, 2015, the Commission voted to terminate the contract. The Commission then voted to re-advertise the Project utilizing the Design-Build method of project delivery to allow the Responders the opportunity to utilize innovative approaches in order to expedite the Project while taking ownership of all design documents. The Commission may provide as-built information at the time the RFP is issued.

Current design plans include construction within existing right of way limits. All construction shall be within these existing right of way limits. The Contractor shall coordinate all utility relocations or design around any existing utilities.

All Responders are hereby notified that MDOT will provide a complete set of construction and erosion control plans for the Project <u>as reference only</u> upon issuance of the RFP. The Contractor will be required to provide a final set of construction plans for the Project signed and sealed by the Contractor's appropriate team member(s) in accordance with the RFP. The Contractor will be responsible for the development of erosion control plans in compliance with the current regulations for storm water runoff/erosion control for the entire Project. Prior to the Notice to Proceed (NTP), the Environmental Manager shall obtain erosion control certification recognized by MDOT. All plans shall be developed in accordance with the RFP.

The Commission has secured an approved Environmental Assessment/Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the construction of the Project as well as a Wetlands/Waters United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) 404 Permit and a Storm Water General Permit (LCNOI). Any additional permits and/or permit modifications required will be the responsibility of the Contractor. If a design and/or method of construction is proposed that triggers additional regulatory requirements, then the Contractor will be responsible for compliance with all such additional state and federal regulations. A copy of the Environmental Assessment/FONSI, the Wetlands/Waters USACE 404 Permit, and the Storm Water General Permit (LCNOI) are available at the MDOT Design-Build and Special Projects website (mdot.ms.gov - under Contracts and Letting, Design-Build and Special Projects).

MDOT will be responsible for the Construction Inspection and Job Acceptance Testing; however, the Contractor's Design Engineering Firm will be responsible for Design Quality Control. The Contractor will be responsible for the Quality Control Testing of asphalt and concrete mixtures. The Contractor will also be responsible for providing the Pile Dynamic Analysis (PDA) and pile driving criteria for all structures, and as a result, provide recommended pile lengths to be approved by MDOT.

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III. SCOPE

The scope of work for this Project may include, but is not limited to, the following design and construction work items:

Design:

- Erosion control plans
- Final structural design and plan preparation
- Final roadway design and plan preparation
- Intelligent transportation systems design
- Hydraulic analysis
- Quality control for design
- Full design surveying/staking
- Geotechnical investigation, design, testing, and report preparation
- Traffic control plans
- Utility coordination
- Roadway drainage design
- Surveying
- Traffic signals
- Signing
- Lighting

Design shall meet all appropriate specifications including, but not limited to MDOT Roadway Design Manual, AASHTO *Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets* (latest edition), AASHTO *LRFD Bridge Design Specifications* (latest edition), AASHTO *Standard Specifications for Highway Bridges* (17th edition), *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD) (latest edition), the Floodplain Management Regulations for the State of Mississippi, AASHTO *Drainage Manual*, and MDOT design criteria as modified by the RFP. CADD files prepared for MDOT's use shall be compatible to Microstation and Geopak. The survey shall be performed in accordance with the current MDOT Survey Manual. Any additional specifications and/or requirements will be further defined in the RFP.

Construction:

- · Clearing and grubbing with debris removal and disposal
- All necessary roadway and structural work in accordance with construction plans
- Surveying/construction staking
- Drainage
- Intelligent transportation systems installation
- Erosion and sediment control work items
- Quality control testing of asphalt and concrete mixtures
- Traffic control
- Utility coordination
- Project management
- Construction management
- Construction quality control

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Construction shall comply with the MDOT Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction 2004 Edition as modified by the RFP to accommodate specific Design-Build requirements, Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) (latest edition), MDOT Standard Drawings, any Special Provisions and Notice to Proposers, current MDOT, AASHTO or ASTM publications.

IV. SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS

SOQs must be received by the date and time specified in the Milestone Schedule located at the end of this document. Deliver **nine** (9) copies of the SOQ sequentially numbered on the lower right hand cover sheet from 1 to 9, and one (1) CD containing the SOQ in a PDF file to:

Mr. Billy Owen, P.E.
Contract Administration Engineer
Mississippi Department of Transportation
401 North West Street
Post Office Box 1850
Jackson, Mississippi 39215-1850

Phone: (601) 359-7730 Fax: (601) 359-7732

V. SUBMITTAL FORMAT

The SOQ must be submitted according to the Milestone Schedule located at the end of this document. The recommended length of the SOQ is no more than twenty-five (25) pages, double-spaced, exclusive of appendices. Pages (size 8.5 inches by 11 inches) will each be counted as one (1) page of the recommended 25-page maximum. Margins should be at least one inch on all four sides, typed on one side only, excluding appendices. All text information in the recommended 25-page limit should be shown in a readable font, size 12 points or larger. No more than five pages may be 11 inches by 17 inches, but they shall count as two sheets each against the recommended 25-page maximum. Headers, footers, charts, and other graphics may be provided in a different font type and size providing they are legible. Section dividers are not counted as part of the recommended 25-page maximum. A single-page cover letter and table of contents will not be counted as part of the recommended 25-page maximum. Resumes, licenses, certifications, and the SF 330 Part II may be provided in the appendices and will not count against the recommended 25-page maximum. It is preferred that all resumes be limited to one (1) page.

The overall quality of the SOQ submittal will be evaluated. This will include, but will not be limited to overall layout and readability of the submittal, organization and comprehensiveness of the required content, conformance with formatting guidelines, and any other characteristics of the SOQ that increase the quality of the document. Responders are encouraged to thoroughly address the requirements of the RFQ for the highest quality response. Failure to provide any of

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the information in the appropriate location indicated below may adversely affect the Responder's score.

Responders shall address each of the following categories in their SOQ in the same order as listed below. The SOQ categories shall be listed in a manner consistent with this RFQ.

A. TEAM APPROACH TO MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACT

Identify the firms that are part of the team and describe how and why the team has been so structured. At a minimum, this description shall include those firms identified in the organizational chart as defined in section B. Explain the roles and responsibilities of each firm as part of the Responder's team and how these responsibilities will facilitate the successful completion of the Project.

In addition, each engineering firm should provide a completed <u>Part II of Form SF 330</u> in accordance with the form's instructions. These forms should be included in the appendix. The form can be obtained at the following web address:

http://sp.mdot.ms.gov/Consulting%20Services/Pages/Forms.aspx

B. EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS OF PERSONNEL

1. Provide an organizational chart of the Responder's team members including, at a minimum, all Key Individuals and other members of the team indicated in this section of the RFQ. The team organizational chart should include each individual's name, job description (for this Project), and company of employment. The organizational chart should be tabbed and clearly defined. Changes to Key Individuals cannot be made after initial submittal of this SOQ without MDOT approval.

Provide the complete contact information for the Project Director for correspondence during procurement. At a minimum, include a physical (mailing) address, a direct phone number, and e-mail address for this individual.

Key Individuals are defined as the following members of the team: Project Director, Lead Design Engineer, Construction Manager, Construction Superintendent, Project Surveyor, Environmental Manager, Safety Officer, Traffic Control Manager, Geotechnical Engineer, and Quality Control Manager.

2. Provide the following information necessary to demonstrate that the following Responder's **Key Individuals and Staff** possess the preferred minimum <u>qualifications</u> listed below and any additional relevant qualifications, including previous Design-Build experience that may be advantageous to the Project:

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a. The **Project Director** should have a minimum of ten (10) years of experience managing projects of similar scope and magnitude. Provide a maximum of five (5) projects that demonstrate the Project Director's ability to successfully complete a project of similar scope and magnitude. For each project listed, provide:

- i. A brief description of each relevant project managed, including at a minimum, the year(s) of construction, the contract amount of the project, the Project Director's employer at the time, the location of the project, and any unusual features.
- ii. The name of the owner for whom the work was performed and the name and phone numbers of the owner's representatives who can verify and discuss the Project Director's participation in the project.
- b. The **Construction Manager** should have a minimum of ten (10) years of experience in the management of projects of similar scope and magnitude. Provide a maximum of five (5) projects that demonstrate the Construction Manager's ability to successfully complete a project of similar scope and magnitude. For each project listed, provide:
 - i. A brief description of each relevant project managed, including at a minimum, the year(s) of construction, the contract amount of the project, the Construction Manager's employer at the time, the location of the project, and any unusual features.
 - ii. The name of the owner for whom the work was performed and the name and phone numbers of the owner's representatives who can verify and discuss the Construction Manager's participation in the project.
- c. Each **Construction Superintendent** should have a minimum of five (5) years of experience in supervising projects of similar scope and magnitude.
- d.The **Project Surveyor** of the construction team should have a minimum of five (5) years of experience and demonstrate experience in roadway and bridge survey, layout, and construction staking work. The Project Surveyor is required to be a Professional Surveyor licensed in the State of Mississippi. Mississippi registration is not required to propose on the Project but is required prior to commencing the work.
- e. The **Environmental Manager** should have experience in the environmental oversight of environmentally sensitive projects. Explain how the outcomes of these projects demonstrate concern for the natural environment.

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f. The **Safety Officer** should demonstrate knowledge of current OSHA requirements and at a minimum have completed the OSHA 10-Hour Construction Training.

- g.The **Traffic Control Manager** should have knowledge of the *Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices* (MUTCD), and have a minimum of ten (10) years of experience with projects of a similar scope and magnitude.
- h. Provide the experience, qualifications, and any additional relevant information about the Responder's **Lead Design Engineer** that may be advantageous to the Project. It is preferred that the Lead Design Engineer have a minimum of ten (10) years of experience and expertise in the design of projects of similar scope and magnitude. The Lead Design Engineer is required to be a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Mississippi. Mississippi registration is not required to propose on the Project but is required prior to commencing the work. Provide the experience, qualifications, and any additional relevant information about any **Supporting Engineering Staff** that will be responsible for additional technical design elements necessary to the scope of the Project. The design team should have personnel with experience and expertise in design of projects of similar scope and magnitude.
- i. Provide the experience, qualifications, and any additional relevant information about the **Geotechnical Engineer** and any additional **Geotechnical Staff**. The Geotechnical Engineer will conduct a geotechnical investigation, as necessary, and provide specific recommendations for the design and construction of the retaining wall foundations. It is preferred that the Geotechnical Engineer have a minimum of ten (10) years of experience in the design of retaining walls. The Geotechnical Engineer is required to be a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Mississippi. Mississippi registration is not required to propose on the Project but is required prior to commencing the work.
- j. The **Quality Control Manager** shall have a minimum of ten (10) years of experience on projects of similar scope and magnitude. The Quality Control Manager shall not be an employee of the construction firm.
- 3. Discuss the <u>role and responsibility</u> of each of the following select **Key Individuals** for the Project and how these roles and responsibilities will support the Responder's team:
 - a. Project Director The Project Director shall be the primary person in charge of and responsible for delivery of the Project in accordance with the contract requirements. The Project Director shall have full authority to make the final decisions on behalf of the Responder. During the procurement and preconstruction phases, the Project Director shall have responsibility for communicating these decisions directly to MDOT as the Responder's main point of contact during these phases.

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b. Lead Design Engineer – The Lead Design Engineer shall be in charge of and responsible for all aspects of the design of the Project.

- c. Construction Manager The Construction Manager reports directly to the Project Director and shall be responsible for the overall coordination of the Project including design and construction. The Construction Manager must be present at the site full-time. During the construction phase of the Project, the Construction Manager shall be the Contractor's main point of contact with MDOT.
- d. Environmental Manager The Environmental Manager should be responsible for adherence to all environmental requirements and commitments, including but not limited to erosion control inspections as required by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), the terms of the Storm Water Permit, if any, and other environmental rules and regulations. The Environmental Manager should be on-site and conduct all necessary reviews and inspections to ensure the Project is in compliance.
- **e. Traffic Control Manager** The Traffic Control Manager shall be available on a twenty-four (24) hour per day basis throughout construction and be prepared to coordinate response to the Project upon notification of an emergency situation.
- **f. Geotechnical Engineer -** The Geotechnical Engineer shall be responsible for all aspects of geotechnical engineering and evaluation for the project, including but not limited to retaining wall foundations, evaluation of potentially unstable soils, slope and embankment stability, settlement, and geotechnical earthwork considerations. He shall be available, as needed, during construction for earthwork and geotechnical project questions.
- **g. Quality Control Manager** The Quality Control Manager shall be responsible for assuring that the design, all workmanship, and materials are in compliance with the contract requirements. The Quality Control Manager shall report directly to the Project Director. The Quality Control Manager shall not be employed by the construction firm.

As an appendix to the SOQ document, provide resumes of Key Individuals and other personnel that you consider critical to the success of this Project, including team members discussed above. It is preferred that all resumes be limited to one (1) page. Any licenses or certifications may be provided in the appendices. It shall be a requirement of the contract for the Project that any design reports, plans, and specifications shall be signed and sealed by a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Mississippi. Mississippi registration is not required to propose on the Project but is required prior to commencing the work. Key Individuals are to remain for the duration of the Project, and changes cannot be made without MDOT approval.

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MDOT reserves the right to obtain references from any source listed in the SOQ and any other source deemed appropriate for any of the requirements/criteria listed in this RFQ.

Modifications to the Responder's, Short-listed Responder's, or Contractor's Key Individuals are discouraged and require approval by MDOT. MDOT will not approve requests for modification without proper justification. In order to secure MDOT's approval prior to the award of the contract, a written request shall be sent to the following e-mail address: 155HindsDesignBuild@mdot.ms.gov. The request shall include:

- a) The nature of the desired change,
- b) The reason for the desired change, and
- c) A statement of how the team will meet the required qualifications for the position/responsibility.

No such modifications will be made without prior MDOT approval. Modifications to Responder's Key Individuals after short-listing could negatively affect evaluation of the Volume 1 - Technical Proposals.

Mississippi Code Annotated Sections 73-13-1 through 73-13-45 (1972) (as amended) govern the practice of engineering in Mississippi. Firms are required to be qualified to offer and provide services in the State of Mississippi. For more information, contact the Mississippi Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Surveyors at (601) 359-6160. More information can be found at the Board's web address: www.pepls.state.ms.us.

C. PAST PERFORMANCE

The Responder should provide the following information demonstrating the team's past experience:

1. Provide a maximum of **five** (5) construction projects, with a brief description of each, that demonstrate the Responder's ability to successfully complete the Project. Any of the listed construction projects may include projects utilizing the Design-Build method of delivery. Example construction projects and/or Design-Build projects should have been completed within the last five (5) years and should be of similar scope and magnitude to the Project herein. The Responder should also indicate whether they served as a subcontractor or a prime for each project, their role on the project, the construction contract amount of each project, the location of each project, the years of construction for each project, the name of the owner for whom the work was performed, and the name and phone numbers of the owner's representatives who can verify and discuss the project. Indicate any innovative practices used on these projects and any client or industry recognition received.

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2. Provide a maximum of **five** (5) design projects, with a brief description of each, that demonstrate the Responder's ability to successfully design a project for construction. Any of the listed design projects may include projects utilizing the Design-Build method of delivery. Example design projects and/or Design-Build projects should have been completed within the last five (5) years and should be of similar scope and magnitude to the Project herein. The Responder should also indicate whether they served as a subconsultant or a prime for each project, their role on the project, the design contract amount of each project, the location of each project, the design contract execution date and completion date, the name of the owner for whom the work was performed, and the name and phone numbers of the owner's representatives who can verify and discuss the project. Indicate any innovative practices used on these projects and any client or industry recognition received.

- 3. Provide brief answers (Yes or No) and explanations as required to the following questions:
 - a. Has any member of the Responder's team been declared delinquent, defaulted, or been terminated on any project within the last **five** (5) years? If so, identify the team member(s) and project(s) and explain.
 - b. In the past **five** (5) years, has any member of the Responder's team been suspended, debarred, disqualified from bidding, or declared ineligible for work by any entity, or are any such actions pending against them? If so, identify the team member(s) and explain.
 - c. Is any member of the Responder's team under indictment, been convicted, or had any construction-related civil judgments issued against them in the past **five** (5) years? If so, identify the team member(s) and explain.
 - d. Has any member of the Responder's team been assessed liquidated damages on any projects within the past **five** (5) years? If so, identify the team member(s), identify the project(s), and explain.
 - e. Does any member of the Responder's team have active projects that are behind schedule? If so, identify the team member(s) and the project(s), and describe why the project(s) are behind schedule and how far the project(s) are behind schedule.
 - f. Has any member of the Responder's team been assessed erosion and sediment control fines within the last **five** (5) years? If so, identify the team member(s) and the project(s) and explain.
 - g. Has any member of the Responder's team incurred disciplinary action by a state board of licensure for professional engineers and surveyors or similar body within the past **five** (5) years? If so, identify the team member(s) and explain.

D. SAFETY

1. Provide the OSHA Recordable Incident Rate for each construction firm for the last five years.

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2. Identify any construction firm team member(s) that have been cited for OSHA violations within the last five (5) years. If a team member has been cited for a violation, provide a detailed explanation of the violation and identify the team member.

3. Provide a description of each construction firm's safety program and any other safety-related details that may be relevant to this Project.

E. BONDING AND INSURANCE CAPACITY

Provide information on the Responder's insurance and bonding capacity.

VI. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Responder's attention is directed to 23 CFR Section 636 Subpart A and in particular to Subsection 636.116 regarding organizational conflicts of interest. Section 636.103 defines "organizational conflict of interest" as follows:

"Organizational conflict of interest means that because of other activities or relationships with other persons, a person is unable or potentially unable to render impartial assistance or advice to the owner, or the person's objectivity in performing the contract work is or might be otherwise impaired, or a person has an unfair competitive advantage."

Responders shall provide information concerning potential organizational conflicts of interest and disclose all relevant facts concerning any past, present, or currently planned interests which may present an organizational conflict of interest. The Responder shall state how its interests or those of its chief executives, directors, Key Individuals for this Project, or any proposed consultant, contractor, or subcontractor may result, or could be viewed as, an organizational conflict of interest.

Responders are prohibited from receiving any advice or discussing any aspect relating to the Project or procurement of the Project with any person or entity with an organizational conflict of interest, including, but not limited to Michael Baker Jr., Inc., and any of their affiliates. Such persons and entities are prohibited from participating on a Responder team relating to this Project.

The Responder agrees that, if an organizational conflict of interest is discovered, the Responder must make an immediate and full disclosure to MDOT that includes a description of the action that the Responder has taken or proposes to take to avoid or mitigate such conflict. If after award of the contract, an organizational conflict of interest is determined to exist, MDOT may, at its discretion, cancel the Design-Build contract for the Project at no additional cost. If the Responder was aware of an

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organizational conflict of interest prior to the award of the contract and did not disclose the conflict to MDOT, then MDOT may terminate the contract for default.

If no potential conflict of interest exists, the Responder should indicate so in the SOQ.

VII. SOQ EVALUATION

The criteria shown below will be considered in determining the firm's qualification score. The maximum points for each evaluation category will be as follows:

Maximum Score	100
Bonding and Insurance Capacity	5
Safety	10
Past Performance	30
Experience and Qualifications of Personnel	30
Team Approach to Management of the Contract	15
Quality of SOQ	10

Based upon the scoring of responsive SOQ submittals, MDOT intends to short-list the <u>most qualified</u> Responders (a minimum of three (3)). The Short-listed Responders will be invited to submit a Volume 1 - Technical Proposal and a Volume 2 - Contract Price Proposal for this Project. Proposals shall be based on the requirements listed in the RFP, which will be provided to the Short-listed Responders.

VIII. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Commission intends for the contract to be awarded based on Best Value selection as defined in the RFP. The Commission intends for the contract type to be firm Fixed Price.

All Responders are advised that a DBE goal will be established in the RFP.

The Commission reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to cancel this procurement and proceed no further or to re-advertise in another public solicitation.

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The Commission assumes no liability and will not reimburse costs incurred by Responders (whether selected or not) in developing responses to this RFQ.

MDOT reserves the right to request or obtain additional information about any and all responses to the RFQ.

Responders are hereby advised that unless traveling in a vehicle as part of the general public, all Responders are prohibited from stepping onto the job site until further notified by the Commission. It is anticipated that all Responders may be allowed this courtesy beginning January 20, 2015. An official notification will be issued via the Design-Build and Special Projects website (mdot.ms.gov – under Contracts and Letting, Design-Build and Special Projects). Responders are responsible for checking this website for updates.

MDOT may issue addenda to this RFQ, which will be posted to the MDOT Design-Build and Special Projects website (mdot.ms.gov - under Contracts and Letting, Design-Build and Special Projects). Responders shall be solely responsible for checking the website for any and all updates, responses to written questions, addenda, or other information related to the Project. Short-list results will be posted to the MDOT Design-Build and Special Projects website.

All questions related to this RFQ shall be submitted by e-mail and directed to the following e-mail address:

I55HindsDesignBuild@mdot.ms.gov

Questions e-mailed in accordance with the above method will be accepted according to the dates established in the Milestone Schedule. Only written requests e-mailed to the above e-mail address in accordance with this RFQ will be considered. No requests for additional information or clarification to any other MDOT office, firm, or employee will be considered. All responses will be in writing and will be posted to the MDOT Design-Build and Special Projects website (mdot.ms.gov – under Contracts and Letting, Design-Build and Special Projects).

Neither the COMMISSION nor MDOT will be responsible for any oral exchange nor any other exchange of information that occurs outside the official process specified herein.

MDOT may disqualify a Responder if any of its major participants belong to more than one Responder's organization. The term "major participants" includes the Prime Contractor's construction company in its entirety and the firm from which the Lead Design Engineer is employed.

The Responder should mark any and all pages of their SOQ considered to be proprietary information which may remain confidential in accordance with Mississippi Code Annotated 25-61-9 and 79-23-1 (1972, as amended). Each page of the SOQ that the Responder considers trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information should be on a different color paper than non-confidential pages and be marked in the

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upper right hand corner with the word "CONFIDENTIAL." Failure to clearly identify trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information will result in that information being released subject to a public records request.

All debriefing requests from Responders who are not short-listed shall be submitted by e-mail to the attention of the following individuals within one (1) week of the date that the list of Short-listed Responders is posted to the Design-Build and Special Projects website (mdot.ms.gov – under Contracts and Letting, Design-Build and Special Projects).

Gina Lombard
glombard@mdot.ms.gov
and copy (Cc)
Scot Ehrgott, P.E.
sehrgott@mdot.ms.gov

The debriefing shall be limited to teams not short-listed and to the merits of the individual Responder's SOQ.

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IX. MILESTONE SCHEDULE

Advertise RFQ	January 12, 2015
Deadline for Submittal of RFQ Questions	January 16, 2015 5:00 p.m. Central Time
Target Date for MDOT to Post Final Answers and Issue Addenda	January 20, 2015
Deadline for Submittal of Nine (9) Copies and One (1) PDF File of SOQ	January 26, 2015 10:00 a.m. Central Time
Letter to Responders	January 29, 2015 (Approximate Date)
Provide RFP to Short-listed Responders	January 30, 2015 (Approximate Date)
Submittal of Volume 1 – Technical Proposals	February 27, 2015 (Approximate Date)
Submittal of Volume 2 – Contract Price Proposals	March 9, 2015 (Approximate Date)
Notification of Award	March 10, 2015 (Approximate Date)
Targeted Substantial Completion Date	December 31, 2016 (Approximate Date)